this Council, I have had to pass rulings, and I should not be swayed by the consideration that, if I would not be ruling in a particular manner, Members would walk out. My opinions are independent of these considerations, and after considering the facts to the best of my ability, I pass these rulings. Nobody possesses the right to question the soundness of my rulings or to say that I am prejudiced in the matter of giving rulings. I am very sorry that this incident took place, and I am equally sorry to find that the cordial co-operation which I expected from the Members has not been forthcoming. I have only this much to say, before I proceed to the next item of business.

A BILL AMEND THE COCHIN CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure be read in Council.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I second it.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I have not got much to say about the principle of the Bill. The object is to provide for the summary trial of certain cases under the Nuisance Regulation that are now being ordinarily tried by the First and Second Class Magistrates. The Criminal Procedure Code provides for such trials in regard to certain offences. Along with the Bill I had submitted the section also as amended, which runs thus:—

"Of offences under the Municipal and Sanitary Improvement Regulation and the Conservancy portion of the Police Regulation, and offences under the Nuisance Regulation, Regulation IV of 1098, punishable with fine or with a term of imprisonment not exceeding one month."

President.—What is the advantage you get by the amendment?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It may take much of the time of the Magistrates, if these offences are tried elaborately by the Magistrates. The offences under these Regulations are not so very serious and important as to require a regular trial. They are only offences punishable with fine or a term of imprisonment not exceeding one month.

President.—Anybody wishing to take part in the discussion of the Municipal Amendment Regulation?

(None spoke.)

The motion was then put to the vote and carried.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—The title of the Bill is "A Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure".

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—I do not think that the House

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expects me to ask for a Select Committee to be appointed in regard to this matter. I request you, Sir, that the rule that 15 days should elapse before taking this Bill into consideration after its introduction be suspended.

President.—I think I can grant the request.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I second it.

The motion was put to the vote, and was carried.

The Council then rose for lunch, as it was 2 p. m. It re-assembled at 3 p. m., when Mr. M. Krishna Menon also was present.

President.—Under Standing Order 41, "When a motion that a Bill be taken into consideration has been carried, it shall be in the discretion of the President to submit the Bill or any part of the Bill to the Council clause by clause".

Under Standing Order 41, we will consider the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure Amendment Regulation, clause by clause.

The first clause is "This Regulation will be called the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure Amendment Regulation of 1102"

The motion was put to votes, and the clause was carried.

President.—The second clause is "It shall extend to the whole of Cochin, and shall come into force at once".

This clause was also put and carried.

President.—The third clause is "The following words shall be added in clause (a) of section 236 of the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure, Regulation II of 1086, between the words 'Police Regulation' and 'which', namely 'and offences under the Nuisance Regulation, IV of 1098'.

The section, so added will read thus:—"Offences against the Municipal and Sanitary Improvements Regulation and the Conservancy Clause of the Police Regulation and offences under the Nuisance Regulation, IV of 1098, which are punishable with fine or with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month".

This clause was also put and carried.

President.—All the clauses are now carried.

The preamble runs thus,—"Whereas it is expedient to amend section 236 of the Cochin Code of Criminal Procedure, Regulation II of 1086, it is hereby enacted as follows,—"

The preamble was also put to votes and carried.

President.—This Bill has to be passed at a subsequent meeting of the Council.

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Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure be taken up and passed at the meeting of the Council on Friday next.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I second it.

The question of taking up and passing the Bill at the meeting of the Council on the subsequent Friday was put to votes and carried.

THE COTTON INDUSTRY (STATISTICS) BILL.

President.—The next item of business is the introduction of the Cotton Industry (Statistics) Bill.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Sir, I beg to move that the Cotton Industry (Statistics) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Sir, I second it.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—Sir, I oppose the Bill. There is only one mill in the State. Now, several non-official Members are absent. They may be coming tomorrow, and then, the matter may be settled. Now, it may be put off.

President.—Why not we consider this when we have a full House?

Mr. M. Krishna Menon.—It may be taken up for consideration tomorrow.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—I don't know on what reason it is to be put off. On principle, I oppose the putting off.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—The Bill may be introduced, and the matter may be referred to a Select Committee, and the matter may again be brought for discussion when the other Members are here.

President.—But if the Bill is not wanted at all, no reference to the Select Committee is necessary. If the Bill is not passed, and the motion to read it in Council is lost, the whole Bill goes away.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—It is not the fault of the Government that the Members are not here.

Mr. V. K. Kochunni Menon.—But important measures are put off in other Councils as well, if there are not sufficient Members.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—What I suggest is that, if there are sufficient Members for carrying on the business, there must be justification for the Government to put this off.

President.—Even if it is opposed, the House, as it is now constituted, will be able to carry it. Then, the principle of the Bill would be accepted. What the Committee can do is only to modify certain provisions.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—They can throw it away *lue toto*. I think so.

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